

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Organization of the North Korean Rear Service Unit

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50X1-HUM

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1. [redacted] the 591 Rear Service Unit was attached to the General Bureau of Rear Service of the North Korean Army headquarters and stationed two kilometers southwest of Sop'o railroad station (125-44, 39-03) (ID-3629). The commanding officer was Colonel Yi Han-kun (125-56, 39-25) (ID-5267).

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Three battalions attached to this unit guarded the munitions storage houses and handled transportation of munitions from Chien (126-00, 41-07) across the Yalu to Pyong-dong (126-25, 41-38) (BA-6957) for temporary storage and on to Kanggye (126-36, 40-38) (39-9837), Huich'on (126-17, 40-20) (BA-6968), and Sunch'on (125-56, 39-25) (ID-5267).

2. The unit used Russian ZIS trucks and horse carts. Thirty or forty horse carts were loaded each night and moved southward. Shipments include munitions, clothing, food (generally corn), and canned goods.

3. Under the commanding officer was a rear service commander. Under these officers were the following departments:

- Political Department, consisting of a political regimental commander, an organizing leader, and a propaganda agent.
- Staff Department, consisting of a chief of staff, operations staff, supply office, and general administrative office.
- Rear Service Department, consisting of a rear service regimental commander, fuel supply chief, clothing supply chief, and barracks officer.
- Medical Department, consisting of a chief of surgery, surgery officer, and sanitary leaders.

4. The organizing leader of the political department was responsible for educating all soldiers within the unit, irrespective of rank, in the organization of the North Korean Labor Party. He was also responsible for the recruiting of non-party members and for disciplinary action.

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against members who engaged in non-party line activities. The propaganda agent was responsible for the indoctrination of troops in Communism. Two political lectures a week were given to officers and three to enlisted men.

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5. Key personnel of the unit were the following:

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| a. Rear Service Regimental Commander: | THI Lang-söp (金應燾),
Lieutenant colonel. |
| b. Chief of Staff: | KANG Hak-yöl (姜學烈),
major. |
| c. Operational Staff: | THI Lang-hün (金相根),
senior lieutenant. |
| d. File Staff: | KANG Pong-sil (姜鳳植),
captain. |

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